MR. K. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI: (*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) In view of the answer to (*a*) there was no occasion to take any such steps.

Paddy Cultivation.

6. **MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE**: Will the Government be pleased to state how many acres were set apart for paddy cultivation, how many acres of this were actually cultivated and if any area remains uncultivated the reasons for not cultivating the area?

MR. K. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI: It is not clear what is meant by area set apart for paddy cultivation. The total area of land registered as wet land in the State is 6,00,457·88 acres. Almost the whole of this area is cultivated according to the usual crop rotation.

Import of Cattle into Travancore.

7. **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI** (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware:

1. (*a*) that the ryots of Nanjinad were all along depending for the plough and cart cattle on the adjoining British Indian Districts;

(*b*) that on account of the prohibition imposed by the Madras Government against the import of cattle into Travancore from such districts there is already a serious dearth of such cattle in Nanjinad;

(*c*) that such dearth of cattle has already begun to seriously affect paddy cultivation;

2. if they are not aware, will they be pleased to make immediate enquiries on the subject and ascertain the real condition now prevailing; and

3. will they be pleased to make immediate and strong representation to the British Indian Government and have this prohibition removed before the condition of the paddy cultivation in Nanjinad becomes still worse?

MR. K. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI: 1. (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

2. In view of the answers to (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) this does not arise.

3. Necessary action has already been taken as the result of which a Joint Board in which Travancore also is represented will consider the question shortly.

Midwives and Nurses.

8. **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware:

(*a*) that at present there are not sufficient number of midwives and nurses available in the State especially for service in the villages; and

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[Mr. S. Muthukaruppa Pillai.]

(*b*) will the Government consider the desirability of opening up regular classes in some central place in Travancore to train up a larger number of midwives and nurses with a view to open up a living to a larger number of women in the State and also the desirability of making them available to the village folk also at the rate of at least one for each pakuthi in the State ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Classes for training Midwives have been started from 1-2-1119 in four centres *viz.*,

Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum	...	15 pupils.
Victoria Hospital, Quilon	...	15 do.
District Hospital, Alleppey	...	5 do.
District Hospital, Kottayam	...	5 do.
Total	...	40 do.

A class for training nurses has also been started in the General Hospital. 33 students are now undergoing training. These classes will be continued for some time.

Paddy purchase.

9. **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that according to the present system adopted by the Government of purchasing excess paddy from the ryots immediately after each harvest, the ryots as far as possible dispose of to Government undried and wet paddy with a view to prevent loss by shrinkage ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the Proverticars after purchase of such paddy, with a view to prevent loss to them by shrinkage and also for want of better convenience store them up in close and air tight rooms allowing them to deteriorate ;

(*c*) whether they are aware that for these reasons the major portion of the paddy collected by Government after each harvest does not reach finally the consumers in a wholesome condition ; and

(*d*) if they are aware, will they be pleased to consider the possibility of making better arrangements so that at least the local paddy purchased from the ryots may reach the consumers in a wholesome condition ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Instructions issued in regard to purchase of paddy are that only clean and well-dried paddy should be purchased on behalf of Government from the ryots.

(*b*) The paddy so purchased is stored in granaries selected according to the convenience of each place. The paddy is taken out and reconditioned as and when necessary to keep it in wholesome condition.

(*c*) and (*d*) Do not arise.

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